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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 39
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Identical letters dated 28 July 1997 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly and to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 51/195 B of 17 December 1996 on the situation in Afghanistan and to my reports, 16 March (A/51/838-S/1997/240 and Corr.1) and 16 June 1997 (A/51/929-S/1997/482), issued pursuant to that resolution. In those reports, I described both the ongoing conflict among the Afghan parties and the efforts of the United Nations Special Mission and the international community to resolve the conflict.

I remain convinced of the need to intensify the efforts of the United Nations and its Member States to help bring about a peaceful solution. I have, therefore, decided to appoint a Special Envoy, Ambassador Lakhdar Brahimi, to undertake a short-term mission in order to consult interested and relevant countries and parties, as well as the Organization of the Islamic Conference, on their positions and proposals related to peacemaking efforts in Afghanistan. I hope that the Special Envoy will be able to submit his findings and recommendations to me in time for my report on Afghanistan to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session. I would stress that the mandate and activities of the Special Envoy are discrete and to be distinguished from those of the United Nations Special Mission, the mandate of which has been specifically defined by the General Assembly in its resolutions.

I should be grateful if you would convey this information to the members of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

97-20590 (E) 290797

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RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 28 July 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Cambodia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to submit for your information a letter dated 21 July 1997 from the members of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia addressed to the Acting Chairman of the National Assembly, Mr. Loy Sim Chheang.

I should be deeply grateful if you would kindly circulate the text of the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 109 and 110, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) SISOWATH Sirirath
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative

97-20613 (E) 290797

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ANNEX

Summary of a letter dated 21 July 1997 to the Acting Chairman of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia

In conformity with items 7, 10, 19 and 58 of the Internal Regulations of the National Assembly, we, the undersigned Members of Parliament request that any meeting of the National Assembly be postponed until such time as the situation in Cambodia returns to normal because, in the present climate of intimidation, Members of Parliament cannot carry out their duties in a spirit of independence and according to their consciences.

(Signed) Son Sobert

(Signed) Ahmed Yahya

(Signed) Prak Chantha

(Signed) Thaong Nouv

(Signed) Chhun Phinop

(Signed) Maogn Sophan

(Signed) Son Chhay

(Signed) Min Saroeun

(Signed) Sam Kanitha

Note:

Item 7. The (12-member) Standing Committee of the National Assembly and the Assembly itself have the same (5-year) term. Therefore the 5 FUNCINPEC and BLDP members of the Standing Committee cannot be replaced before May 1998.

Item 10. The quorum required for the Standing Committee to meet is 7 out of 12 members. Since Son Soubert and Kem Sohka, Ahmed Yahya, Om Rasedy and Kan Man have fled the country following the coup and since Chairman Chea Sim serves as Acting Head of State, only 6 members of the Standing Committee can meet.

Item 19. Only the Standing Committee can convene the National Assembly and set the agenda of its meetings.

Item 58. A group of 10 Members of Parliament can request the postponement of any meeting of the National Assembly.

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Agenda items 10, 11 and 17

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION

REPORT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

QUESTION OF EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION ON AND INCREASE IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND RELATED MATTERS

Letter dated 28 July 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Minister of External Relations of Brazil, Ambassador Luiz Felipe Lampreia, in his capacity as President of the Council of Ministers of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP), I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Final Declaration adopted by the meeting of the Council of Ministers of CPLP held in Salvador, Brazil, on 18 July 1997 (see annex).

I would be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 10, 11 and 47.

(Signed) Celso L. N. AMORIM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-20644 (E) 310797

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ANNEX

Final Declaration adopted at Salvador, Brazil, on 18 July 1997 by the meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries

1. The Ministers for External Relations and Foreign Affairs of Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal and Sao Tome and Principe, met in the city of Salvador, Brazil, on 17 and 18 July 1997 in the presence of the Executive Secretary of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (Comunidade dos Países de Língua Portuguesa (CPLP)). On that occasion, the Minister for External Relations of Brazil was elected to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.

2. The Ministers welcomed the report presented by the outgoing Presidency (Portugal), in particular with regard to the installation of the Executive Secretariat, the inauguration of its Head Office and the establishment of the legal and financial framework of the Organization, which have allowed for the institutionalization of the Community and the inception of its activities.

3. The Ministers reviewed the activities of CPLP, with special focus on the plan of action of the Executive Secretariat, as approved by the Ministerial Meeting held in New York on 26 September 1996, and they reaffirmed their confidence in CPLP as a privileged instrument for consolidating, developing and enhancing their common historical ties, on the basis of the shared principles of peace, denocracy, social justice and economic progress.

4. The Ministers acknowledged the actions undertaken by the organs of the Community to implement the decisions and recommendations that had emanated from the Conference of Heads of State and Government and from the Council of Ministers, in conformity with the general guidelines contained in the Constitutive Declaration and the Statutes, in order to promote cooperation in the cultural, economic, social, scientific and legal/institutional fields, as well as to enhance political and diplomatic coordination. The Ministers were thus pleased to acknowledge the organization of several sectoral meetings and instructed the Permanent Coordination Committee and the Executive Secretariat to follow up on the implementation of the relevant resolutions.

5. The Ministers reiterated the need to strengthen the mechanisms for political and diplomatic coordination among member States with a view to safeguarding their legitimate interests in the international arena, in particular with regard to the ongoing process of reform of the United Nations system, as well as in the regional organizations of which they are members. Within the perspective of an enlargement in the permanent membership of the Security Council that ensures the integration of three developing countries and two additional developed countries, the Ministers reaffirmed their wish to support the inclusion of Brazil as a permanent member of that organ.

6. The Ministers took note with satisfaction of Portugal's election to the Security Council of the United Nations, which received the support of the member States. The presence of Portugal in the Security Council, along with that of

Guinea-Bissau in the second year of its mandate, strengthens the international visibility of CPLP and its capacity to play an active role in the United Nations system.

7. The Ministers listened to the information provided by the Minister for External Relations of Angola and expressed their concern with regard to the grave situation which threatens the full implementation of the Lusaka Protocol. In that context, they reiterated their support for the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, namely, resolutions 864 (1993) and 1118 (1997), which listed a series of measures with respect to the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola (UNITA), and the Troika Declaration of 14 July 1997, in which the negative acts recently perpetrated by that movement were condemned in the strongest terms. To that effect, they appealed to the leader of UNITA to submit to the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola (MONUA) all troops who have avoided the control of the United Nations with a view to their demobilization, so as to allow for the peaceful extension of the administration of the State to the entire national territory and to facilitate the free circulation of people and goods.

8. The Ministers reaffirmed their support for the self-determination of the people of East Timor and welcomed the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to Bishop Ximenes Belo and Mr. Ramos Horta. In that context, the Ministers took note with satisfaction of the new format proposed by the United Nations Secretary-General for the negotiations on East Timor, aiming at the relaunching of the tripartite dialogue and the intra-Timorese dialogue, in order to find a just, global and internationally acceptable solution to the question of East Timor, in full respect for the legitimate rights and aspirations of its population and in conformity with international law. They expressed concern with respect to the worsening situation as regards human rights violations and lack of respect for fundamental freedoms that had taken place in the Territory and demanded the full implementation of the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights on the issue.

9. The Ministers also took note of approved projects and of those implemented with the financial support of the Special Fund. In that context, they welcomed the important initiatives and the support from civil organizations, especially through events and projects that have contributed to the fulfilment of the objectives established in the Constitutive Declaration of CPLP.

10. The Ministers decided to adopt the recommendations emanating from the 1st Meeting of Political Officers for CPLP Cooperation, which took place at Lisbon on 16 and 17 April 1997 and which, inter alia, identified the following areas for concentrated efforts within CPLP: the strengthening of the institutional capacity of member States, the development and enhancement of human resources as well as the mobilization and coordination of efforts to promote solidarity, reconstruction and social and economic rehabilitation.

11. Regarding the promotion of the Portuguese language, the Ministers entrusted the Executive Secretariat with the convening of a meeting open to participation by representatives of governmental and other relevant entities to deepen the discussion on the creation of the international institute for the Portuguese language.

12. The Ministers took note with satisfaction of the approval by the National Assembly of Cape Verde of the Statute of the Lusophone Citizen, which establishes specific and privileged treatment for the citizens of the States members of CPLP in Cape Verde, thus facilitating the free movement of people and goods and promoting integration, to the benefit of the consolidation and the development of CPLP.

13. The Council of Ministers deferred for consideration by the Permanent Coordination Committee the examination of the proposal for the statute of the Special Fund, as presented by the Executive Secretariat.

14. The Ministers approved resolutions relating to the internal rules of procedure and the budget.

15. The Ministers approved a resolution on CPLP observer status and decided to present it for adoption at the next Conference of Heads of State and Government.

16. At the end of their deliberations, the Ministers signed the Agreement on Cooperation among the Governments of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries for the Reduction of Demand, Prevention of Undue Consumption and Combat against Production and Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

17. The Ministers accepted with satisfaction the offer made by Cape Verde to host the next meeting of the Council of Ministers and took due note of the appeal by Cape Verde to other member States and at the Secretariat for their support in the organization at Praia of the forthcoming event as well as of the next Conference of Heads of State and Government.

18. The Ministers expressed to Brazil, the State of Bahia and the city of Salvador their appreciation for the warm and fraternal hospitality extended to all the participants in the meeting of the Council of Ministers of CPLP.

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Agenda item 120

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Letter dated 28 July 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, I have the honour to write to you with regard to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 51/226 of 3 April 1997, in particular section III.B, paragraph 26.

The objectives and intent of the Group of 77 and China when it joined the consensus in that resolution remain unchanged, hence its support to the decision taken by the Fifth Committee at its meetings held on 21 and 22 May 1997 which reaffirmed that the resolution would be implemented as adopted.

The Group of 77 and China also endorsed the understanding that the resolution would not be implemented in a retroactive manner, as conveyed by the President of the General Assembly in a letter dated 30 May 1997 addressed to you contained in document A/51/913.

It was officially recognized by the Main Committee of the General Assembly dealing with human resources management issues that staff holding short-term appointments before 3 April were not subject to the provisions of paragraph 26 of resolution 51/226. In the view of our Group, this understanding applies without exception to all the staff of the Secretariat.

Consequently, we are concerned about information brought to our attention which indicates that the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management issued instructions to heads of various departments regarding the application of paragraph 26, which do not take into account the understanding of the Fifth Committee regarding its prospective application.

We have also learned that staff holding short-term and/or fixed-term appointments have been asked to leave the Organization by the end of this month,

ostensibly in pursuance of the aforementioned paragraph. We would like to know under which provisions of the staff or financial rules have the Secretariat interpreted the use of the term "short-term appointments ... of one year or more" as stated in the resolution, to encompass "fixed-term appointments of less than one year".

In the view of the Group of 77 and China, such instructions, if issued, constitute a serious departure from the decisions of the General Assembly and should be rectified immediately.

I have the honour to request the following details regarding resolution 51/226:

(a) Mode of application of paragraph 26 of the aforementioned resolution;

(b) Number and nationality of staff on short-term appointments before 3 April 1997;

(c) Number and nationality of staff that have been asked to leave the Organization pursuant to the implementation of the aforementioned resolution;

(d) Number and nationality of staff on short-term appointments recruited after the adoption of the resolution;

(e) Number and nationality of staff exempted from the application of paragraph 26, the reasons for such exemptions and the name of the department where he/she works.

In this context, the Group of 77 and China considers that it would be pertinent that in its reply the Secretariat take due account of the questions asked by various delegations during the formal meetings of the Fifth Committee held on 21 and 22 May 1997.

Finally, I wish to reiterate the commitment of the Group to work towards an open and constructive dialogue with the Secretariat for the greater efficiency of the Organization, particularly in the field of human resources management.

On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, I would like to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly under agenda item 120.

I await your official response with the information requested in this letter.

(Signed) Daudi N. MWAKAWAGO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the United
Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations
Chairman of the Group of 77

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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

THE SITUATION OF DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN HAITI

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/51/L.77

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ihor V. HUMENNY (Ukraine)

1. At its 71st meeting, on 30 July 1997, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/51/54) on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/51/L.77. The related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was presented orally by its Chairman.

2. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this item are reflected in the relevant summary record (A/C.5/51/SR.71).

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

3. The Fifth Committee decided to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/51/L.77, the Secretary-General would be authorized to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed $2,585,100 under section 3, Peacekeeping operations and special missions, of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997. The Secretary-General would be further authorized to enter into commitments in an amount of $256,200 under section 32, Staff assessment, offset by the same amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment. Following the procedures adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, any related requirements for adjustments of existing 1996-1997 appropriations would be reflected in the second performance report of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session.

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Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Management of peacekeeping assets

Field assets control system

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to the request of the General Assembly contained in its decision 50/500 of 17 September 1996 for a follow-up report on the *matériel* management aspects of the report of the Secretary-General of 29 May 1996 (A/50/965). It describes the field assets control system, expanding on the assets management strategy described in the report of the Secretary-General, taking into account the views of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its reports (A/50/985 and A/51/872), the recommendations of the Board of Auditors (A/C.5/50/51) and the recommendation of the Office of Internal Oversight Services regarding the codification of assets, contained in section E of the report of the Secretary-General (A/51/803). The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are contained in paragraph 27.

97-20849 (E) 110897

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I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to the request of the General Assembly contained in its decision 50/500 of 17 September 1996 for a follow-up report on the *matériel* management aspects of the report of the Secretary-General on management of peacekeeping assets: policy, technique and accounting issues of 29 May 1996 (A/50/965). It describes the systems developed for management and control of the Organization's mission assets, expanding on the assets management strategy described in the report of the Secretary-General of 29 May 1996, and taking into account the views of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its reports of 26 June 1996 and 14 April 1997 (A/50/985 and A/51/872), the recommendations of the Board of Auditors (A/C.5/50/51) and the recommendation of the Office of Internal Oversight Services regarding the codification of assets, contained in section E of the report of the Secretary-General of 20 February 1997 (A/51/803).

2. In consideration of the above documents and the need to establish a control mechanism in accounting for the inventory of the United Nations global assets and following completion of a thorough review of the existing organizational control process by the Field Administration and Logistics Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, a field assets control system is being developed to provide an auditable chain of accountability for United Nations-owned assets from their initial procurement through their final disposal. This automated system for the control and management of assets fulfils information requirements and replaces the heretofore manual work process of the United Nations, both at Headquarters and in the field. Implementation of the system will allow Headquarters visibility of all the items of United Nations-owned non-expendable property, as defined in the administrative instruction of 16 January 1992 (ST/AI/374), currently in storage or in use in missions.

3. The present report describes the field assets control system in detail and introduces plans for the development of a comprehensive field mission logistics system (FMLS), which will provide an interactive database and on-line environment for Headquarters interaction with missions in specific areas associated with their logistics support. The FMLS is described further in paragraphs 25 and 26 below.

II. Background

4. The administrative instruction mentioned above (ST/AI/374), entitled "Property records and inventory control under revised definition of non-expendable property", states that non-expendable property consists of items of property or equipment valued at $1,500 or more per unit at the time of purchase and with a serviceable life of five years or more. The report of the Secretary-General of 29 May 1996 (A/50/965) described a proposed overall assets management strategy for implementation by the Field Administration and Logistics Division and stated than an automated system was required to overcome the difficulties now associated with non-expendable property management, including the non-standard and uncoordinated implementation of asset control systems in each of the field missions resulting in data collection that is neither transparent nor interactive on a global basis; lack of a standard item codification system and an adequate inventory recording procedure; and ineffective tracking of the procurement and maintenance history of assets.

5. Assets management in this context is defined as a process to ensure that assets acquired by the Organization are properly handled, accounted for and controlled, and that informed and timely decisions are made on the procurement, delivery, redistribution, replenishment, storage, write-off and disposal of assets. The Field Administration and Logistics Division is responsible for the global management of mission assets. Individual missions are in turn responsible for the in-mission administration and management of those assets assigned to the mission.

III. Management of peacekeeping assets

6. Financial rule 110.25 and ST/AI/374 specify the requirement for controls and for the maintenance of property records for United Nations-owned property. In order to correct the weaknesses listed in paragraph 4 above, the Secretary-General is developing the field assets control system, in order to provide the specified records and controls for non-expendable property, suitable records and controls for the efficient management of expendable property and the specified records and controls for special items of an attractive nature and property issued against property receipts. As such, the field assets control system is but one element of an overall effort to improve the responsiveness, efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the provision of United Nations logistics support to missions through the development of the FMLS.

7. The ability to track the physical condition of assets and efficiently manage spare parts is necessary for the proper functioning of the field assets control system. Therefore, one of the first elements of the FMLS to be developed and implemented will be the United Nations-owned equipment portion of the maintenance tracking system to provide condition tracking and the necessary controls for management of expendable spare parts used in the maintenance of non-expendable property and attractive items.

IV. Field assets control system infrastructure

8. The field assets control system will use the Organization's existing global mission communications, data storage and transmission infrastructure (see annex I for a chart showing existing Field Administration and Logistics Division data network). The system will take advantage of modern commercial groupware (software) and bar coding technology for the seamless integration and transfer of asset data between field missions and the Field Administration and Logistics Division. Use of groupware technology that supports near-real-time multilevel user access and the transfer/update of information from external data sources will enable: standardization of inventory data capture; data sharing and transfer of information between existing field mission asset databases; elimination of data entry redundancies (i.e. existing mission databases can be used for the retrieval and reconfiguring of data for use in other missions thus eliminating the need for manual re-entry of such data); and transparency of inventory tracking between missions and within each mission area. The system will interface with the Reality procurement support system and the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) to permit asset life cycle tracking from requisition through procurement to write-off and disposal. By providing management reports and a detailed inventory of peacekeeping assets (including their condition and location), the field assets control system will be of great assistance in the preparation of reports on the disposition of assets of liquidating missions, in the resolution of discrepancies and in ensuring prompt issuances of receipt and inspection reports by recipient missions.

9. Each of the specialist logistics units (engineering, transport, supply, communications, electronic data processing and medical) will act as commodity managers responsible for the global management of United Nations assets that fall within their specialist area, from procurement through initial distribution and redeployment where necessary, to disposal and replacement as required. The field assets control system will provide commodity managers with life cycle costs and item residual value data that will be useful in determining disposal policies. The Field Administration and Logistics Division will remain the first point of contact for field missions requesting initial provisioning of assets and subsequent changes in their *matériel* holdings. The Division will thus continue to review requirements, including specifications and standards, and approve or reject requests for certain types of equipment, taking into account the associated budgets and procurement actions and considering the availability of similar items in the United Nations Logistics Base, other missions or from donation or loan by contributing nations.

V. Field assets control system design

10. The design of the field assets control system will allow managers to make useful application of records that now exist in field mission automated databases, manual records and periodic reports, and provides for the automatic permanent archiving of those records and reports. Since groupware enables automatic system-wide replication of changed information, data entries made in a field mission, at the United Nations Logistics Base or in the Field Administration and Logistics Division will automatically update or complete records at every level in the system, ensuring that all users have near-real-time visibility of the updated data. A chart showing the system design is provided in annex II. The system consists of five interlinked modules, plus the United Nations-owned equipment portion of the maintenance tracking system, as follows:

(a) The item master catalogue module;

(b) The mission assets module;

(c) The in-mission tracking module;

(d) The disposal module;

(e) The *matériel* request order module;

(f) The maintenance tracking system (United Nations-owned equipment).

11. The item master catalogue module serves as the system's central catalogue of the entire range of assets used in missions. This module contains the description and the unique identification (item number) of each line of equipment and supply held in field missions. After the completion of testing in September 1997, the cataloguing and codification of line items will be centrally controlled by the Field Administration and Logistics Division's commodity managers. Articles purchased locally by missions for which no Division item number exists will be given a temporary item number by the mission until a final item number is issued by the Division. These final item numbers will be electronically (and automatically) replicated to the missions by the system. This will ensure the maintenance of strict coding standards within the system and ensure uniform inventory records are maintained by missions worldwide.

12. The Field Administration and Logistics Division has reconsidered the issue of the item numbering or codification system to be used for field assets and has taken into account the views expressed by the Advisory Committee and Member States in their review of the report of the Secretary-General on the subject (A/50/985). After further review of the matter it was determined that the United Nations common coding system (UNCCS) will serve as the basis for classification and codification of items in the field assets control system. Presently, the UNCCS six-digit code provides for the classification of major groupings of various items. The identification of individual line items within this class/group can be done by extending the UNCCS code with the IMIS organizational code (to identify the United Nations organization that created the particular line item code number) and by non-significant numbers (to create unique line item numbers). This approach conforms to the recommendations of IMIS and has been successfully field tested by the Division. The field assets control system uses this approach (UNCCS extended by IMIS organizational code and by additional non-significant numbers) for the codification of field assets and will be able to provide equipment details that describe the item at the generic level while also providing exact information on the make, model number, capacity, volume data and the bar code number of each individual item. The system will also allow for additional cross-referencing of any other identifying numbers associated with the asset from any other numbering systems (e.g. national codification systems, manufacturers catalogue numbers, etc.). The field assets control system, therefore, is compatible with other codification systems while retaining the flexibility to cater for future automated systems for United Nations-owned expendable supplies and contingent-owned equipment. Annex III provides examples of the codification of items for the field assets control system.

13. The mission assets module contains the consolidated global database of each mission's assets, classified in accordance with the unique item numbers of the Item Master Catalogue Module. The mission assets module will reside at the Field Administration and Logistics Division in New York (with a back-up copy

located at the United Nations Logistics Base, Brindisi) and subsets of the database that contain the information on all assets assigned to individual field missions will be replicated and visible to the respective field missions. The groupware technology used in the system provides for automatic, near-real time, system-wide data updates between the Field Administration and Logistics Division, the United Nations Logistics Base and all field missions. The mission assets module provides the link to the procurement system and includes procurement information such as requisition and purchase order numbers, original purchase price and the length of serviceable life. This module will use bar codes for unique asset identification and tracking. The module also encompasses the traditional supply functions of receipt, storage, issue, shipment and disposal and allows for near-real-time update of asset tracking information to responsible commodity managers and field missions; visibility of advance asset shipping information to the Field Administration and Logistics Division, the United Nations Logistics Base and the sending and receiving field missions for the inter-mission/intra-mission transfer of assets, logistics decision-making and planning support to commodity managers and mission staff; and transparency of field mission inventories. This system also enables the immediate recognition of surplus assets in missions that have been downsized or are undergoing liquidation and provides commodity managers the flexibility to redistribute assets in lieu of new procurement.

14. The in-mission tracking module tracks asset movements within the mission area providing the property control and inventory unit with up-to-date inventory information at all times. This module maintains the issuance history for each individual asset, ensures that an accurate visibility of mission level stock is available to the Field Administration and Logistics Division and the mission at all times, provides immediate information on the location of all mission assets, disseminates data entry from the property control and inventory unit to the asset managers and supports usage statistics for planning purposes. This module will also contain the scanned images of certification and procurement documentation.

15. The disposal module tracks the Property Survey Board process for assets and will allow for all Property Survey Board documentation to be created within the field assets control system. This module also contains the scanned images of signatory documents concerning accidents and incidents involving the loss, damage or write-off of property (PT-107 documents, board of inquiry reports, etc.) and will be the origin of data for presentations to the Headquarters Property Survey Board.

16. The *matériel* request order module allows missions to request needed assets on-line for approval and electronic action by commodity managers and subsequent issue by the United Nations Logistics Base or a liquidating mission, in the event the required items are held in stock. It is important to note that the Logistics Base is intended to be operated as a field operating element of the Field Administration and Logistics Division and as a permanent facility that supports peacekeeping operations worldwide. The Base will hold assets from liquidated missions for re-use where it is economic to do so, maintain contingency stocks and initial provisioning supplies to enable rapid deployment of *matériel* on short notice and support communications and data transfer between United Nations headquarters and peacekeeping missions worldwide. In other words, the Division will retain responsibility for the global management of United Nations-owned assets; the Logistics Base will hold, repair, maintain and issue United Nations-owned assets as directed by the Division.

17. The maintenance tracking system (United Nations-owned equipment) will capture and centralize information, reports and on-line actions required by commodity managers at Headquarters and in Missions for the maintenance of United Nations-owned equipment within their specialist areas of responsibility. This system will provide specific information on each individual item of United Nations-owned equipment such as the item's maintenance history, repair parts and labour consumed by the item and the item's required maintenance schedule. It is also planned for users to be able to access manufacturers' parts catalogues on-line. The maintenance tracking system will provide for the efficient management of expendable repair parts and be interlinked with the field assets control system, ensuring that maintenance cost information will be included in individual item life cycle cost data. It will also facilitate the automated restocking of repair parts.

VI. Implementation of the field assets control system

18. The development of the groupware application modules of the field assets control system is being completed in-house. The process of developing, testing, performance verification and fielding of the system is an arduous one that continues to require the application of considerable amounts of manpower for lengthy periods of time. For example, the development of the item master catalogue module has taken in excess of three months and has involved personnel from each specialist logistic section of the Field Administration and Logistics Division and substantial input from all of the missions. During the development of the item master catalogue, staff of the Division reviewed the assets inventories of all field missions, created standard asset line item descriptions and removed all duplications caused by the lack of centralized item classification and codification. This process resulted in a decrease of the number of individual asset line items in the item master catalogue from more than 175,000 to approximately 15,000. Work on the modules of the system has progressed to the point where system testing is currently being conducted on a mock-up simulation.

19. The Field Administration and Logistics Division is using the existing communications network and electronic data transfer capabilities in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to implement the field assets control system. During 1997 and 1998, and independent from the development of the system, the existing Department's communications and data transmission wide area network is undergoing a technical enhancement using existing resources to produce a reliable network suitable for all mission requirements. These enhancements will increase the speed and overall capacity of the data network for the existing and projected volume of data transmission to sustain the field assets control system.

20. In tandem with this enhancement of the data transmission network, electronic data-processing infrastructure in the field missions is being upgraded. Ageing computers are being replaced with newer models capable of running modern software and servers and technical infrastructure are also being improved. The result will be a more responsive data network in the missions, providing users with reliable connectivity to the wide area network.

21. The Field Administration and Logistics Division deployed the field assets control system to the United Nations Logistics Base in June/July 1997 and conducted field testing and performance verification. It is planned to conduct in-mission testing in two missions during August/September 1997. Installation of the field assets control system in missions will commence after these tests and performance verification have been completed; it is envisaged that the system will be installed and operational in all missions by June 1998.

22. From October 1997 to April 1998, installation teams will install the system, manage the changeover of missions from their existing inventory system to the field assets control system, incorporate mission input into system configurations and conduct training of the mission personnel who will maintain and operate the system. It is estimated that the installation process in each mission will require, on average, a five-week period. Once installation is completed further system upgrades will be electronically distributed from the Field Administration and Logistics Division.

VII. Resources for the field assets control system

Post requirements

23. As identified in paragraph 37 of the report of the Secretary-General on the support account for peacekeeping operations of 7 May 1997 (A/51/890), four additional support account posts (1 P-4, 2 P-3 and 1 General Service) are required in the Asset Management Unit, Office of the Chief, Logistics and Communications Service, the Field Administration and Logistics Division, to ensure effective use and future development of the field assets control system. In its report of 21 May 1997 (A/51/906 and Corr.1), the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions expressed the view that the Secretariat

should address the issue of the implementation of the observations, comments and recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Board of Auditors and the Office of Internal Oversight Services on assets management in peacekeeping operations before any consideration of requests for additional resources in this area. These issues are addressed in the present report. Functional descriptions of the posts being requested are as follows:

(a) *Assets management (P-4)*. As the focal point of the Field Administration and Logistics Division for assets management, the incumbent is responsible for the development and implementation and updating of the field assets control system and for the development, implementation and updating of policies and procedures relating to assets management for the staff of the Logistics and Communications Service and for property officers in the field. The incumbent also serves as the focal point within the Logistics and Communications Service for contingent-owned equipment matters relating to self-sustainment. Other responsibilities include monitoring and enforcing adherence to published policies and procedures and the initiation of corrective action where required, preparing and updating delegations of authority, monitoring and follow-up management of equipment-related letters of assist for all missions. This position also has oversight of property survey cases processed by the Asset Management Unit;

(b) *System analysts (2 x P-3)*. The two incumbents act as systems coordinators for the field assets control system and oversee the consolidated databases and daily operation of the system. They interact with the Division and field user groups to determine and analyse further development and refinement of the system and integration with other systems. They plan and implement system capability enhancements, prepare and update documentation, including system standard operating procedures, produce systems documentation, on-line operator training manuals and system hyperlinks providing access to information, procedures and regulatory policies;

(c) *Electronic data-processing assistant (General Service)*. Assists in the development and maintenance of the field assets control system. Provides related technical support services to users in the Division and missions. Assists in the provision of user training and the development of documentation and user manuals.

Travel

24. The installation of the system and training of mission staff will be conducted by teams composed of existing Division and trained mission staff. Each installation team will consist of seven persons (one team leader, two technicians and four trainers). Teams will be required to travel to each field mission in order to install the system and conduct training of personnel. The team leader will be required in the mission for 14 days, each of the two technicians will be required in the mission for 21 days and the four trainers will be required to remain for 35 days. The total estimated costs per field mission are estimated to be $7,000 for travel (seven staff at an average travel cost of $1,000 per person) and $19,600 for daily subsistence allowance (one for 14 days, two for 21 days and four for 35 days at an average rate of $100 per day) and would be funded from item 2 (b), Other travel costs, of the recipient field missions' budgets.

VIII. Future development

25. The field assets control system should fulfil the requirement for the management of non-expendable United Nations-owned equipment. However, it is also the Secretariat's intention to develop and progressively deploy additional logistics support systems to create an integrated, on-line field mission logistics system. The latter will provide better accountability for contingent-owned equipment as well as United Nations-owned equipment and United Nations-owned expendable supplies, and improve logistics responsiveness by automating administrative procedures. The field mission logistics system will be developed in-house by building on the groupware, data transmission network and electronic data-processing equipment already in place for the field assets control system.

26. The field mission logistics system will provide Chief Administrative Officers and responsible officers within missions with better tools with which to perform their accountability functions. It will also provide responsible officers in the Field Administration and Logistics Division with more relevant and up-to-date information upon which to base management decisions and maintain global visibility over field mission logistics support operations. The design of the field mission logistics system is still to be finalized. A chart showing a possible arrangement is shown in annex IV. However, it is proposed that the following interlinked systems be developed:

(a) The movements system will provide access to information and facilitate the on-line processing of requirements to: deploy, rotate and redeploy military contingents and their contingent-owned equipment; deploy, rotate and redeploy civilian police and military observers, move cargo, deploy, redeploy and transfer United Nations-owned equipment between the United Nations Logistics Base and missions and between missions; manage sea lift contracts and short- and long-term air charters; and disseminate aviation flight safety policy, information and procedures. This system will also facilitate in-mission joint movement control centre planning, scheduling, manifesting, tracking and report archiving for cargo and personnel movements within field mission areas, including the on-line preparation, submission and processing of cargo and personnel movement requests;

(b) The maintenance tracking system, which is to be implemented simultaneously with the field assets control system to cover United Nations-owned equipment, will be expanded to cover contingent-owned equipment, in particular equipment provided under dry lease arrangements;

(c) The contingent-owned equipment control system is envisaged to provide for the on-line reporting, processing and actioning of the prescribed policies and procedures concerning the reimbursement and control of the contingent-owned equipment of troop-contributing countries participating in peacekeeping missions. Interlinked modules will provide access to contribution agreements, wet/dry lease and self-sustainment arrangements and a database of contingent assets and will facilitate the on-line preparation and submission of verification and control reports and the processing of reimbursement payments;

(d) The expendable supplies system is envisaged as an automated on-line system to provide access to information for the management and accountability of all United Nations-owned expendable property including general supplies, fuel, spare parts, industrial gases and lubricants, rations, ammunition and water. This system will be similar in configuration to the field assets control system but will provide records and controls for the efficient management of expendable property in accordance with financial rule 110.25 and ST/AI/374. This system will provide support for warehouse operations, automatic restocking, consumption and cost data for analysis by commodity managers. This system will also provide for military elements, units and contingents to provide personnel strength and item consumption reports to improve the forecasting of requirements and accountability for expendable supplies;

(e) The logistics services system will facilitate the on-line preparation and submission of logistics reports and other logistics operational information; issuance, preparation and tracking of all local contracts committees, Headquarters Contracts Committee and letters-of-assist actions by field missions and the Field Administration and Logistics Division from requisition to finalization; processing of claims and servicing of boards of inquiry; and coordination and preparation of audit report responses. It will allow for the raising of documents inside the system to maintain a complete audit trail and to provide near-real-time action status visibility to relevant Division and mission staff;

(f) The logistics reference system will provide on-line access to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations logistics reference and technical documents and will provide for the electronic dissemination of new and revised policies, procedures and guidelines. A portion of this system has already been developed and implemented within the Field Administration and Logistics Division.

IX. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

27. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are as follows:

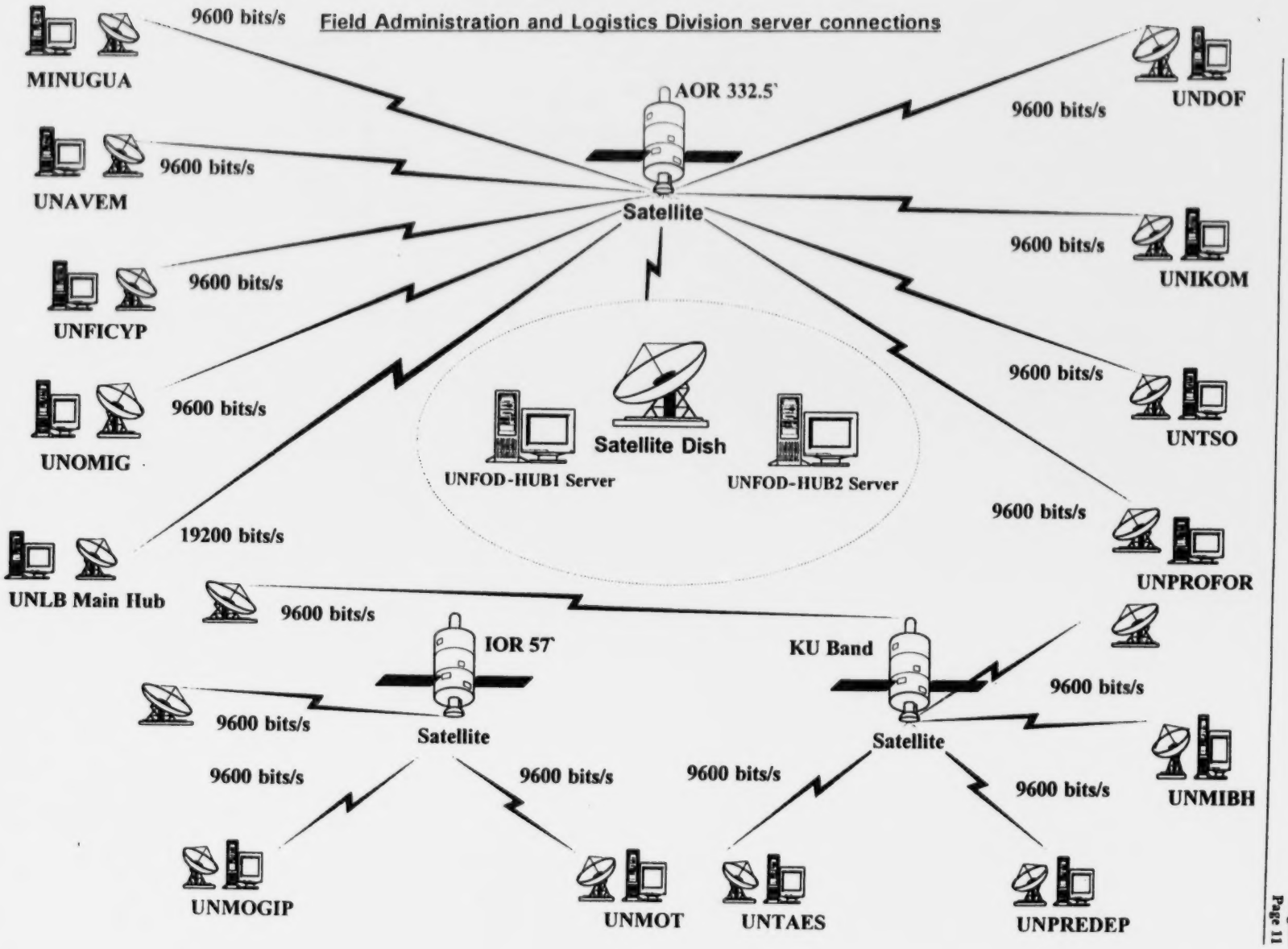
(a) To endorse the proposal for the development and implementation of the field assets control system as described in paragraphs 4 to 22 of the present report;

(b) To approve four additional posts (one P-4, two P-3 and one General Service) to be financed from the support account for peacekeeping operations;

(c) To take note of the requirements for travel to install the system in field missions and train mission staff in its use;

(d) To take note of the intention of the Secretary-General to develop the field mission logistics system, as described in paragraphs 25 and 26 of the present report.

ANNEX I


Field Administration and Logistics Division server connections
MINUGUA
9600 bits/s
AOR 332.5°
UNDOF
9600 bits/s
UNAVEM
9600 bits/s
Satellite
UNIKOM
9600 bits/s
UNFICYP
9600 bits/s
UNTSO
9600 bits/s
UNOMIG
9600 bits/s
Satellite Dish
UNFOD-HUB1 Server
UNFOD-HUB2 Server
UNPROFOR
9600 bits/s
19200 bits/s
UNLB Main Hub
9600 bits/s
IOR 57°
KU Band
9600 bits/s
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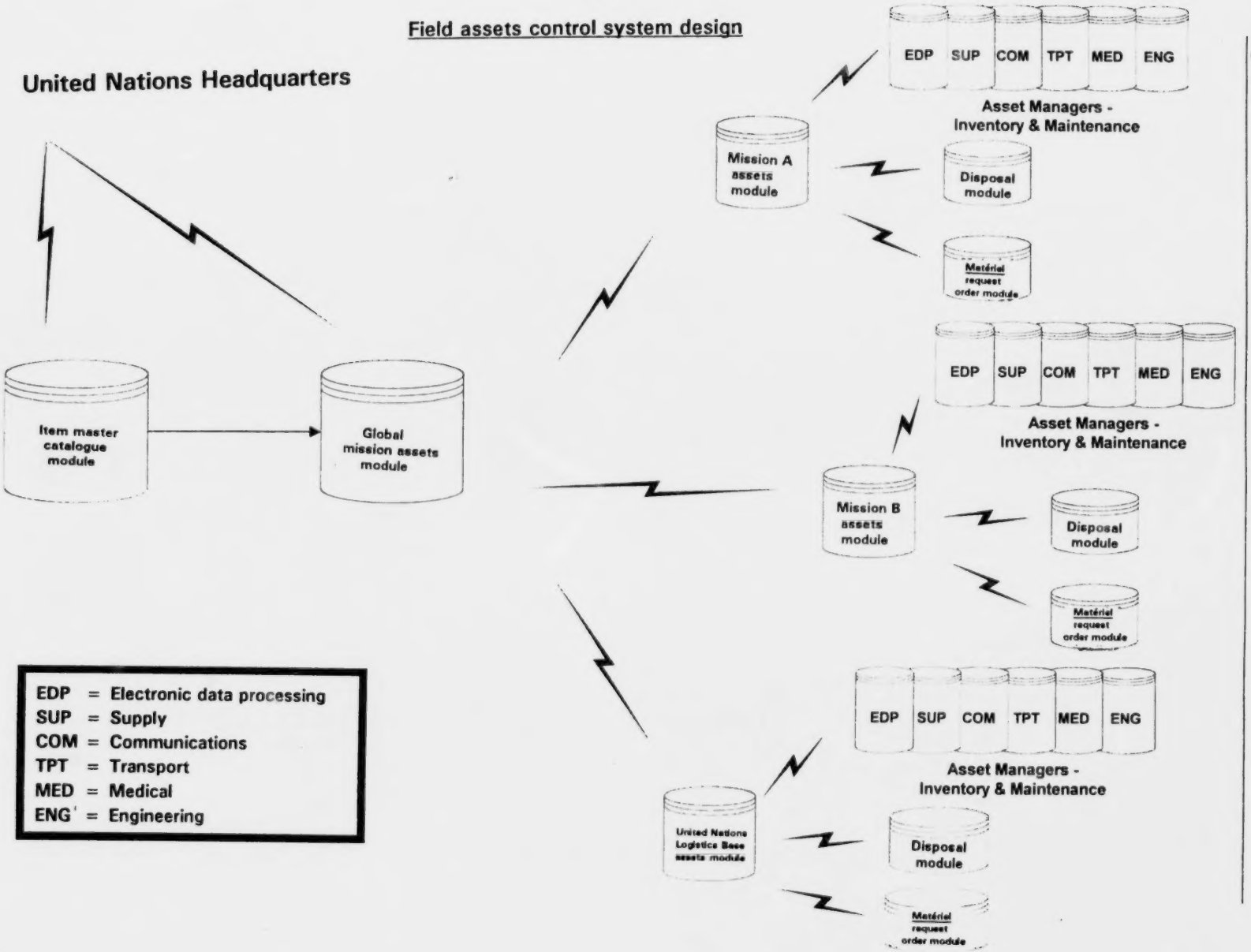
UNMOT
UNTAES
UNPREDEP

ANNEX II

Field assets control system design


United Nations Headquarters
Item master catalogue module
Global mission assets module
Mission A assets module
Disposal module
Matériel request order module
EDP SUP COM TPT MED ENG
Asset Managers - Inventory & Maintenance
Mission B assets module
Disposal module
Matériel request order module
EDP SUP COM TPT MED ENG
Asset Managers - Inventory & Maintenance
United Nations Logistics Base assets module
Disposal module
Matériel request order module
EDP SUP COM TPT MED ENG
Asset Managers - Inventory & Maintenance
EDP = Electronic data processing
SUP = Supply
COM = Communications
TPT = Transport
MED = Medical
ENG = Engineering

Annex III
Codification of items for the field assets control system

1. Item code numbers in the field assets control system will consist of the following three components: (Six-digit UNCCS) + (Four-digit IMIS organizational code) + (Field Administration and Logistics Division-controlled and issued six-digit number)

2. The components of the item code number are as follows:

   (a) The six-digit UNCCS code provides information on the general class of the items (e.g. vehicles, computers, generators, tents);

   (b) The four-digit IMIS code provides information on the United Nations organizational unit that created this unique item code number. IMIS proposes standardizing this numbering system throughout the Organization so that users will be able to identify the source of unique item code numbers;

   (c) The six-digit Field Administration and Logistics Division-controlled and issued number allows identification of each unique item within the UNCCS general class.

3. For example, the item code number: 491770-0146-000008

   is composed of: 491770 (the UNCCS generic code for TRUCKS)

   — 0146 (the IMIS organizational code of the Field Administration and Logistics Division indicating that the Division created this particular item code number)

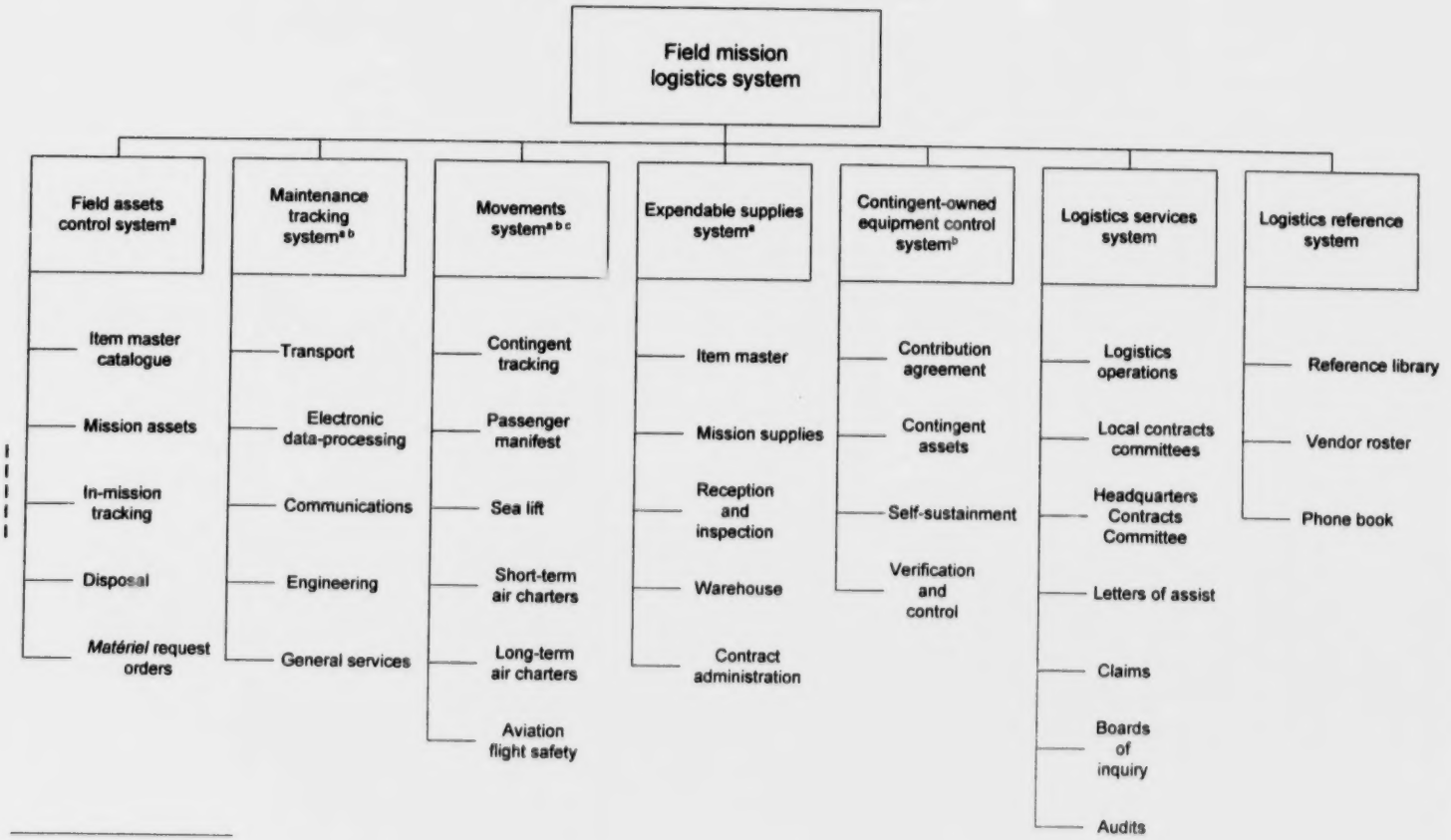
   — 000008 (the Field Administration and Logistics Division-issued non-significant number to create the unique code for the item) and the item code number, 491770-0146-000008, denotes the specific item type:

   TRUCK, CARGO, LIGHT, RENAULT, B110

The field assets control system then provides detailed information on the specifications of this item type and allows for cross-referencing with any other classification system or available reference number. Individual items within this item type are identified by unique bar code labels (tag numbers) and the field assets control system provides the specific information associated with each individual item (e.g. engine number, chassis number, procurement information (requisition number, purchase order number, vendor), maintenance history, physical location, current assigned user, etc.).

ANNEX IV

Field mission logistics system: concept chart



[a] United Nations-owned equipment.

[b] Contingent-owned equipment.

[c] Personnel.

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

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GENERAL

A/51/958
S/1997/605
1 August 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda items 137 and 166
FINANCING OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE PROSECUTION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW COMMITTED IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA SINCE 1991
ELECTION OF JUDGES OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE PROSECUTION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW COMMITTED IN THE TERRITORY OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA SINCE 1991

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Identical letters dated 30 July 1997 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

The President of the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia has requested, for the reasons set out in his attached letter of 18 June, an extension of the terms of office of the non-elected judges of the International Tribunal in order to allow them to dispose of ongoing cases. This matter raises institutional and budgetary questions pertaining to the status of the judges beyond their elected term of office and to related financial arrangements; these were explored in subsequent correspondence with the President, the Prosecutor and the Registrar of the Tribunal.

You may recall that at the election of judges of the International Tribunal by the General Assembly on 20 May 1997, a number of judges currently serving with the Tribunal were not elected for a second term of office. This in particular is the situation of the three judges composing Trial Chamber II

sitting in the Celebici case and whose term of office expires on 16 November 1997. If the same judges are not allowed to complete the case, it would be necessary to restart the trial with a new panel of judges and order the rehearings of witnesses and testimonies. At this stage of the proceedings this would unnecessarily prolong the trial and violate the right of the accused to due process of law.

The statute of the International Tribunal does not contain a provision similar to the one provided for in Article 13, paragraph 3, of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, whereby members of that Court continue to discharge their duties until they are replaced and, thereafter, until they finish any cases which they may have begun. It is, however, provided in article 13, paragraph 4, of the statute of the Tribunal that the terms and conditions of service of judges of the Tribunal shall be those of the judges of the International Court of Justice. Nevertheless, in the absence of an explicit statutory provision providing for the extension of the term of office of Tribunal judges to complete ongoing cases, an approval of the Security Council, as the parent organ, and of the General Assembly, as the electing organ, would be desirable to preclude any question about the legality of such an extension.

As more fully elaborated in the letter addressed to me by the President of the International Tribunal, the period required to complete the Celebici case is estimated at one year and the annual budgetary costs are estimated at $668,480. It is, of course, understood that in the period until the expiration of their elected term of office said judges would be assigned efficiently so as to reduce the period of extension required beyond the end of their elected term to the minimum consistent with due process of law.

I should appreciate it if you would bring the present letter and its attachment to the attention of members of the General Assembly and of the Security Council for their approval in the manner they deem fit.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

ANNEX

Letter dated 18 June 1997 from the President of the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia to the Secretary-General

Following the recent election of judges of the Tribunal with effect from 17 November 1997, there has arisen a serious problem to which I would like to draw your attention.

As you are probably aware, our Trial Chamber II, comprising Judges Karibi-Whyte, Odio Benito and Jan, is sitting in the Celebici case - a complex case, because it involves four defendants. None of the three judges has been re-elected and we will most likely face the situation later this year that the term of office of all judges will expire in November 1997 while the trial is still proceeding.

Under our Rules, judges cannot drop out once a trail has commenced. Were they to resign or cease to be in office, the trial would have to start again, with serious consequences (so far the Trial Chamber has heard 21 prosecution witnesses). At present it is envisaged that the trial could in fact continue for many months after the period of office of the judges expires. The restrictions imposed by the Tribunal having only one courtroom mean that soon we will have two trials (Blaskić and Celebici) running consecutively, each trial therefore only being held for two weeks of each month. In addition, we will have to make allowance for proceedings before the Appeals Chamber in two other cases (Erdemović and Tadić).

At present, as with the Rwanda Tribunal, there is no provision in the statute of the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia for judges, who are involved in a trial, still continuing with it after their period of office has expired. However, under article 13, paragraph 4, of the Tribunal's statute, provision is made that the terms and conditions of service of the judges shall be those of the judges of the International Court of Justice. Article 13, paragraph 3, of the Statute of the International Court of Justice prescribes that members of the Court shall continue to discharge their duties until their places have been filled. Furthermore, it provides that "though replaced, they shall finish any cases which they may have begun".

We would, therefore, like to request an extension of the three judges sitting in the Celebici case. We are, of course, aware of the financial implications of such an extension of the terms of office of judges and, therefore, at the suggestion of the Legal Counsel, our Registrar is prepared to submit a request for additional funds. We will, of course, try to expedite the trial as much as possible without, however, curtailing in any way the rights of the accused.

After discussing the matter with the Presiding Judge of the Trial Chamber (Judge Karibi-Whyte) we have come to the conclusion that a 12-month period (as from 17 November 1997) will be sufficient for the completion of the trial and the delivery of the judgement. This is, of course, on the assumption that we will change our present timetable which provided for two weeks per month for

each of the two trials already under way (Celebici before Trial Chamber II and Blaskić before Trial Chamber I) and make allowance for more time for the Celebici case. (In September Trial Chamber II would hold hearings for three weeks instead of two and in October it would hold hearings for four weeks instead of two.)

We are, of course, aware that this solution is not ideal, also because it will unduly delay the Blaskić trial. However, given the present lack of a second courtroom we have no alternative. May I add that an extension for 12 months of the three judges' term would not run counter to the practice of the International Court of Justice. We have been advised by the Registry of the International Court of Justice that in one case the mandate of an outgoing Judge (Gros) was extended for two years (1982-1984) while in another case (Judge Sette-Camara) it was extended for four years (1988-1992).

Finally, I would like to add on behalf of the Tribunal's Bureau that, after receiving the Prosecutor's memo of 17 June 1997, which has also been forwarded to you by our Registrar, the Bureau held a meeting with the members of Trial Chamber II. The Bureau asked them to do their utmost to finish the trial including the delivery of the judgement and the sentence, if any, before the expiry of the 12-month period, if the extension is granted by the Security Council and funding is available. The three judges are well aware of the need to speed up as much as possible trial proceedings, and assured the Bureau that in their view their judicial activities in the Celebici case should end well before the expiry of the 12-month period.

I should be most grateful to you if you would submit this letter to the members of the Security Council for their consideration and approval of the extension of tenure of the three aforementioned judges for 12 months as from 17 November 1997.

(Signed) Antonio CASSESE
President

UNITED
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General Assembly
Security Council

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A/51/959
S/1997/612
4 August 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 58
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 1 August 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 1 August 1997, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 58, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hüseyin E. ÇELEM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-21038 (E) 050897 060897

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ANNEX

Letter dated 1 August 1997 from Mr. Aytuğ Plümer addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 22 July 1997 (A/51/948-S/1997/580 and Corr.1) addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative at the United Nations in connection with the visit to the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus of His Excellency Mr. Bülent Ecevit, Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey, accompanied by a delegation of ministers and other officials. The visit took place at the invitation of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, on the occasion of the 20 July Peace and Freedom Day celebrations.

I wish to stress, at the outset, that the relations between Turkey and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus are deeply rooted in a common history, culture and kinship and are based on reciprocal recognition and mutual respect between two independent states. Turkey, as the motherland of Turkish Cypriots, and as one of the guarantors of the 1960 partnership republic, has provided effective security guarantees for the Turkish Cypriot people in the face of the long-standing campaign of the Greek-Greek cypriot camp to realize the union of Cyprus with Greece (enosis). This armed campaign, which had started in the mid-1950s and resurged in 1963, finally culminated in the bloody attempt in 1974 at the final takeover of Cyprus by Greece, through a coup d'état organized by the junta in Athens and its collaborators in Cyprus.

Turkey had to intervene on 20 July 1974 in the face of the coup to realize enosis and in order to protect the Turkish Cypriot people, who had been subjected to a severe campaign of ethnic cleansing in the preceding 11 years, and faced imminent threat of extermination at the hands of the invading Greek army and its proxies in Cyprus during the coup (see Archbishop Makarios' statement openly accusing Greece of invading Cyprus, contained in the verbatim record of the 1780th meeting of the Security Council (see S/PV.1780 of 19 July 1974)). Turkey's timely and legitimate intervention, undertaken in accordance with the Treaty of Guarantee of 1960, laid the foundation for a just and durable settlement of the Cyprus question on a bicommunal and bizonal basis.

The Turkish Cypriots have since celebrated the anniversary of this historic turning point in their struggle for survival, freedom and dignity, as Peace and Freedom Day. As an expression of gratitude to Turkey, Turkish officials are invited to attend celebrations to mark this most significant moment in our history. It is clearly the prerogative of the Government to invite whoever it chooses to visit the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, as it is to conclude bilateral agreements and issue joint declarations with Turkey.

Deputy Prime Minister Ecevit's visit to the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus with other high-level Turkish officials on the above-mentioned occasion, in the context of the special relations that exist between the two countries, demonstrates Turkey's continuing commitment to the security and well-being of the Turkish Cypriot people. At the same time, Turkey's presence in Northern Cyprus as a guarantor Power is an indispensable element for a peaceful solution,

evidenced by the fact that the Turkish peace forces have preserved peace and stability in the island during the past 23 years. The Greek Cypriot side's protestations over the visit, therefore, are totally unwarranted and emanate from its unfounded claim to be the sole sovereign authority over the whole island and the desire to totally isolate the Turkish Cypriot people, which is the real provocation and an impediment to a peaceful solution.

As regards the baseless charges concerning "airspace violations", I should like to recall that previous similar allegations were rejected in toto in our successive communications addressed to you, most recently in the letter dated 2 July 1997 (A/51/939-S/1997/526). Since the present Greek Cypriot allegations are no different from or more credible than those previously made, they do not merit a detailed reply. I wish to reiterate briefly, however, that flights within the airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, over which the usurper Greek Cypriot regime in the south has no jurisdiction or right of say whatsoever. The same principle applies also in the case of visits to the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus by vessels belonging to the Turkish navy.

It is ironic that the Greek Cypriot administration, which criticizes visits by Turkish officials to the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, frequently hosts officials from Greece. A case in point is the recent visit to southern Cyprus of Mr. Panayiotis Sgurides, the Deputy Speaker of the Greek Parliament, who stated the following during his visit:

> "After the year 2000 Cyprus will become the EU's 16th member. The threats made by Ecevit and the negative stance of Kinkel and Holbrooke are aimed at dissuading us from the pursuit of our strategic options. When the time comes for Estonia, Slovenia, Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic to become EU members, our veto will carry the same weight as that of Germany. Then we will see whether Kinkel will be ready to forego the membership of Poland in order to block the full membership of Cyprus" (Greek Cypriot Press of 27 July 1997).

This statement by Mr. Sgurides is indicative of the fact that Greece and the Greek Cypriot side have been making contingency plans for "blackmail diplomacy" rather than concentrating their efforts on the peaceful settlement of the Cyprus issue. Evidently, the decision by the Greek Cypriot side and Greece to press on with the unilateral and illegal bid to secure full European Union membership for southern Cyprus in the name of "Cyprus" cannot be compatible with the search for a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus issue on a bicommunal and bizonal basis.

The Turkish Cypriot side has already made its position amply clear in respect of the Greek Cypriot drive towards unilateral European Union membership, and the envisaged commencement of accession negotiations with the Greek Cypriot administration, in contravention of the 1960 treaties on Cyprus. I will, therefore, refrain from elaborating on the legal and political difficulties associated with the issue of European Union membership, and the long-standing Greek Cypriot ambition to convert the island into a Greek colony. It will suffice to recall that in the joint statement issued on 20 July 1997, Turkey and

the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus have outlined the steps that will be taken in the face of the increasingly hostile and intransigent attitude of the Greek Cypriot side, with a view to facilitating a settlement on the island that would provide for the continuation of peace and guarantees, maintain the balance in relation to Cyprus between Turkey and Greece, acknowledge the equality and sovereignty of the two sides in Cyprus and prevent the hegemony of one side over the other.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 58, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aytuğ PLÜMER
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

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S/1997/615
5 August 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 33
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 4 August 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government and further to our earlier letters concerning Israel's attacks on southern Lebanon and the Western Bekaa and the arbitrary practices against the civilian inhabitants in which it engages on a daily basis, I have the honour to notify you of the series of such incidents that took place in July 1997.

1 July 1997

At 1930 hours outlying areas of Aytit and Zibqin came under Israeli artillery fire.

2 July 1997

At 1310 hours outlying areas of Kafr Tibnit in Nabatiyah district came under heavy artillery fire from Israeli positions in the border strip. Israeli helicopters also carried out overflights and strafed woodlands in outlying areas of the village. The shelling caused damage to several houses.

At 2100 hours outlying areas of Arabsalim, Jarju', Jba' and Ayn Bu Siwar and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills came under Israeli artillery fire.

3 July 1997

At 0045 hours outlying areas of Kafr Rumman and Nabatiyah al-Fawqa came under Israeli artillery fire and bursts of small-arms fire. The shelling extended to outlying areas of Arabsalim, Jarju' and Ayn Bu Siwar and to the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills before stopping at 0630 hours.

At 0630 hours outlying areas of Haddatha, Haris, Tibnin, Bra'shit, Shaqra and Majdal Silm came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 0730 hours outlying areas of Zibqin and Jibal al-Butm in Tyre district came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 2015 hours an Israeli helicopter flying over the sea off Na'imah fired a rocket at the Na'imah hills, killing one man and wounding four others.

5 July 1997

At 1200 hours outlying areas of Qilya in Western Bekaa district received bursts of heavy-weapons fire from Israeli positions on the Ahmadiyah hill, and a fire broke out in a plantation. The shooting stopped at 1230 hours.

6 July 1997

At 0845 hours Hima Arnun, outlying areas of Jarju', Arabsalim and Ayn Bu Siwar and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills came under Israeli artillery fire. It was extended to the villages of Ayn Bu Siwar and Jarju' themselves, and two residents were injured.

Between 1130 and 1205 hours Israeli warplanes carried out three raids on the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills. The bombardment and the overflights stopped at 1500 hours. One resident was wounded in the artillery bombardment.

At 1500 hours the security situation in the Jabal al-Rayhan area of Jazzin district grew tense as clashes took place between men of the Lebanese national resistance and Israeli and Lahad militia forces in which all types of weapons were used.

At 2130 hours Kafr Tibnit came under Israeli artillery fire and two residents were wounded. The shelling also extended to outlying areas of Nabatiyah al-Fawqa, Habbush, Arabsalim, Jarju', Ayn Bu Siwar and Jba', to the vicinity of the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks and to the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills.

7 July 1997

At 0600 hours Kafr Tibnit came under Israeli artillery fire, and six residents were injured and a number of houses were badly damaged.

At 1200 hours outlying areas of Jba' came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 2230 hours outlying areas of Arabsalim, Jarju' and Ayn Bu Siwar and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills came under Israeli artillery fire.

8 July 1997

At 2015 hours outlying areas of Jba', Jarju' and Ayn Bu Siwar, the Luwayzah hills and areas along the Litani River came under Israeli artillery fire.

9 July 1997

At 2330 hours outlying areas of Majdal Silm, Sawwanah, Khirbat Silm, Tulin and Qabrikha came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 2345 hours outlying areas of Jibal al-Butm and Zibqin in Tyre district came under Israeli artillery fire.

10 July 1997

At 1200 hours an artillery shell fell in the eastern part of the Kafr Falus area.

At 1245 hours outlying areas of Ayta al-Jabal, Haddatha, Haris, Tibnin, Kafra and Yatar came under Israeli artillery fire.

At around 2000 hours two artillery shells fell in outlying areas of Kafr Falus.

11 July 1997

At 0900 hours outlying areas of Kafr Falus came under Israeli artillery fire. It stopped at 1700 hours.

At 2100 hours outlying areas of Haddatha, Tibnin, Kafra, Yatar, Shaqra, Bra'shit, Majdal Silm, Qabrikha and Tulin came under Israeli artillery fire.

12 July 1997

At 2100 hours outlying areas of Ayta al-Jabal, Haddatha, Bra'shit, Tibnin, Shaqra and Haris came under artillery fire from Israeli and Lahad militia positions.

14 July 1997

At 1740 hours outlying areas of Arabsalim, Jarju', Ayn Bu Siwar, Ayn Qana, Humin al-Fawqa, Jba' and Kafr Fila came under Israeli artillery fire. It stopped at 2030 hours. Israeli warplanes also attacked outlying areas of Kafr Fila, firing air-to-surface missiles.

At 1800 hours rockets fired by Israeli forces fell in outlying areas of Kafr Hattay and Kafr Milki in Sidon district.

15 July 1997

At 0530 hours outlying areas of Zibqin, Siddiqin and Jibal al-Butm in Tyre district came under intermittent artillery fire from Israeli positions in the border strip. The shelling stopped at 0700 hours.

At 1730 hours outlying areas of Jba', Jarju' and Ayn Bu Siwar came under Israeli artillery fire.

17 July 1997

From 1330 hours there were clashes, in which all types of weapons were used, between Lahad elements and the national resistance at the Kafr Hunah-Marj Uyun crossing in the Jabal al-Rayhan area. The crossing was closed as a result, and the clashes continued until 1500 hours.

21 July 1997

At 1315 hours the outskirts of Zibqin in Tyre district came under Israeli artillery fire. The shelling stopped at 1920 hours.

At 1845 hours artillery shells fired by Israeli forces in the border strip fell in outlying areas of Jibal al-Butm in Tyre district. The shelling stopped at 1900 hours.

22 July 1997

At 2245 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Sidon and the nearby camps.

23 July 1997

At 0730 hours outlying areas of Tibnin, Haddatha, Ayta al-Jabal and Bra'shit came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 1030 hours three artillery shells fell in outlying areas of Kafr Falus in Jazzin district.

At 1400 hours Israeli helicopters overflew Kafr Tibnin, Nabatiyah al-Fawqa and the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks, using heavy machine-guns to strafe the area.

At 1945 hours artillery shells fired from Lahad militia positions fell in outlying areas of Jun in Shuf district.

At 2015 hours outlying areas of Arabsalim, Jarju', Ayn Bu Siwar and Jba' came under Israeli artillery fire.

24 July 1997

At 0830 hours outlying areas of Jba' and Ayn Bu Siwar came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 1530 hours outlying areas of Bra'shit, Shaqra, Safad al-Battikh and Majdal Silm came under Israeli artillery fire.

25 July 1997

At 1800 hours outlying areas of Jba' and Ayn Bu Siwar and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills came under Israeli artillery fire.

26 July 1997

At 0900 hours outlying areas of Suhmur in Western Bekaa district came under Israeli artillery fire. One woman was wounded.

At 0945 hours the vicinity of Ayn al-Tinah and Maydun, the Jabbur pool and Abu Rashid hill came under Israeli artillery fire. It stopped at 1200 hours.

27 July 1997

At 1700 hours outlying areas of Arabsalim, Jarju', Ayn Bu Siwar and Jba' came under Israeli artillery fire accompanied by overflights of the area by Israeli warplanes. The shelling stopped at 1745 hours.

At 1930 hours Bra'shit and outlying areas of Tibnin, Shaqra, Ayta al-Jabal and Safad al-Battikh came under Israeli artillery fire.

28 July 1997

At 0645 hours outlying areas of Kafr Rumman and Habbush came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 0700 hours outlying areas of Arabsalim and areas along the Zahrani River came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 1400 hours outlying areas of Jarju', Jba', Ayn Bu Siwar, Arabsalim, Ayn Qana and Humin al-Fawqa and the Jabal Safi hills in the Iqlim al-Tuffah area came under Israeli artillery fire. At the same time Israeli warplanes carried out overflights in the area.

At 1405 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Sidon and the nearby camps at high altitude.

At 1520 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Sidon and the nearby camps at low altitude.

At 1700 hours Kafr Milki in Sidon district came under Israeli artillery fire. Serious damage was done to two houses, to a water cistern and to the electricity grid.

29 July 1997

At 1440 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Nabatiyah and Iqlim al-Tuffah areas.

30 July 1997

At 0730 hours two artillery shells fired from Lahad militia positions fell in Jun in Shuf district.

31 July 1997

At 0800 hours outlying areas of Haddatha, Ayta al-Jabal, Haris, Tibnin, Shaqra and Bra'shit came under artillery fire from Israeli and Lahad militia positions in the occupied border strip.

The Lebanese Government strongly condemns the continued Israeli occupation and these fresh attacks and arbitrary practices inflicted on the Lebanese population, which have left a number of casualties and have caused further serious damage to property.

Like previous attacks, this new series is in flagrant violation of the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon and constitutes a breach of the purpose and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, of international law and o basic human rights.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a documen of the General Assembly, under agenda item 33, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hicham HAMDAN
Chargé d'affaires a.i